

# The Middletown Transcript.

VOL. IX.

MIDDLETOWN, DELAWARE, SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 9, 1876.

NO. 50.

## Lumber and Hardware.

**LINDLEY & KEMP,**

DEALERS IN—

## HARDWARE,

Agricultural Implements,

OPPOSITE NATIONAL HOTEL,

MIDDLETOWN, DELAWARE.

## Hardware Department.

Iron and Steel, Horse and Mule Shoes, Horse Nails, Blacksmith Supplies, Chain Traces, Hames, Collars, Nails, Spikes, Locks, Hinges, Bolts, Pins, Chisels, Levels, Planes, Bevels, Wrenches, Picks, Mattocks, Hubs, Rims, Spokes, Shafts, Logs, and Short Arms, Clips, Springs, Banded Cloth, Gum Canvas, &c. A complete stock of TOOLS and Supplies for Carpenters, Builders, Masons, Saddlers, and others, with many House-keeping articles. We invite the public to call and examine our prices.

**Paints, Oils, Turpentine, Glass and Putty,**  
CHEAPEST AND BEST.

## Cucumber Wood Pumps.

Agricultural Department.  
FARMER'S FRIEND, Hockaday, Wiley, Converse and Moore PLOWS; Plow Castings, Grindstones, Pumps, Scales, Corn Shellers, Chain Saws, Axes, Forks, Spades, Hoes and Rakes.

No trouble to show goods. [Mar 18]

## NOW IS THE TIME TO PAINT.

EVERILL CHEMICAL PAINT,  
HARRISON'S "TOWN & COUNTRY" PAINT  
PURE WHITE LEAD, pure Linseed Oil, and the best Coloring Material.

For Sale at CITY PRICES by

**G. E. HUKILL,**  
Opposite Rail Road Depot,  
MIDDLETOWN, DEL.

## Lumber & Hardware.

**G. E. HUKILL**

Successor to

**J. B. PENIMORE & CO.,**

Opposite the R. R. Depot,

MIDDLETOWN, DELAWARE.

DEALER IN ALL KINDS OF

Lumber, Hardware, and General Building Material, Sash, Doors, Shutters, Blinds, and Mouldings, Paints, Oils, Varnishes, Glass and Putty, Bricks, Building Lime, Hair, &c. Constantly on hand.

—ALSO—  
**EVERILL CHEMICAL PAINT,  
TOWN AND COUNTRY PAINT,**  
(Ready-Mixed.)

"Blatchley's" Celebrated Cucumber Wood Pumps and everything in the building line. Having made arrangements with large wholesale dealers, I shall be prepared to furnish large bills of Lumber for buildings, such as I may not have in stock, direct from wholesale dealers, thereby securing the lowest prices possible to be obtained.

Give me a call, and get my prices, before purchasing elsewhere. Feb 3-ly.

## HARD TIMES

WOULD SOON BE OVER

Everybody would buy and sell on a SMALL CASH PROFIT and thoroughly look up the market on one or two selected articles and

## REDUCE THE PRICES

As R. M. & W. T. Johnson have done

ON BOOTS, SHOES & HATS,

In MIDDLETOWN and SMYRNA,

where you can get the genuine Kip Boot, full top 10-inch leg, for \$4. This is our highest priced heavy Boot, and the best domestic Kip Boot we can offer the public, after having been through all the principal shoe markets of the country.

We sell a side lined Kip Boot of medium weight and good quality for \$3.75. An 18 inch full top or Russet Top Wax Kip, which is generally sold and taken as the best and wears first-rate, for \$3.50. 16 inch Wax Boots from \$2.50 to \$3. Boys' and Youth's Boots in proportion. We sell nothing but solid leather goods and guarantee them against rips or repairs until next Spring.

Measure, GUARANTEE and HONORABLE will repair us in a neat and prompt manner.

## TOWNSEND HOUSE,

Opposite Rail Road Depot,

TOWNSEND, DELAWARE

I am prepared to accommodate permanent and transient guests at reasonable rates. The Bar is at all times stocked with the choicest Wines, Liquors, Tobaccoes and Segars.

A fine Livery is also attached to the Hotel, where teams can be had at reasonable rates.

Come and See Me.

WM. B. HOLLES,

April 8-9f

## LOOK TO YOUR INTEREST.

THE undersigned respectfully informs the citizens of Middletown and vicinity that he is prepared with excellent horse, cart and wagon, to do all kinds of Hauling at lower rates than can be obtained elsewhere. Coal and Lumber hauled at short notice. Sand of all kinds on hand at low rates. All orders will receive prompt attention. Give me a call. JOHN W. HAYES.

Successor to L. G. Vandeventer,  
aug 19-6m MIDDLETOWN, DEL.

## Select Poetry.

### CONTRAST.

There is happy sailing for others  
Adown life's calm, sweet seas,  
Whose boats are gayly dancing  
Before the fragrant breeze;  
There are adverse winds and a billowy sea,  
And storms, and clouds, and gloom for me.  
Some walk 'long paths all fair and sweet,  
Abloom with countless flowers,  
And scarce can tell which first to pluck  
In all love's radiant bowers;  
I walk along a thorny road,  
Bearing a cross—a heavy load.  
Some have their homes all bright with love  
And kisses and fond good-byes,  
That only makes their absence sweet,  
And tearless, sparkling eyes;  
There's a dear one's grave on the hill for me,  
And rest, sweet rest, beyond the sea.  
I, too, had countless treasures once,  
More than my heart could hold;  
Love scattered its pearls down at my feet,  
And crowned me with its gold.  
My pearls were gathered by the demon Death,  
My gold was tarnished by his breath.  
God, steer my boat adown the sea,  
Through all the muck and gloom;  
Help me to walk along the road  
Where not one flower doth bloom;  
Open the pearl-gates 'cross Death's sea,  
And give my darling back to me.

## Select Story.

### The Minister of Montclair.

It was no use; the letters danced before his eyes, the whole world seemed wavering and uncertain in those days. He laid his book down, and began to think of the great trouble which was shutting him in. When the black specks first began to dance between him and the paper, months ago, he had not thought about the matter. It was annoying, to be sure, but he must have taxed his eyes too severely. He would work a little less by lamplight—spare them a little—and he should be all right. So he had spared them more and more, and yet the specks kept on their elfin dance; and now for weeks the conviction had been growing on him slowly that he was going to be blind. He had not told his wife yet, nor could he bear to lay on her shoulders the burden of his awful calamity. Oh, it was too hard!

And yet it was too hard? Dared he say so? he, God's minister—who had told other sufferers so many times that their chastenings were dealt out to them by their kind Father's hand, and that they should count all that brought them near Him as joyous, not grievous? Yet, speaking after the manner of this world, his burden seemed greater than he could bear. What could he do—a blind, helpless man? He must give up his work in life—let another take his ministry—sit helpless in the darkness. Heaven only knew how long. Could he be thus resigned?

Then, suddenly a flash of hope kindled his sky, there might be help for him. This gathering darkness might be something which science could remove. He would be sure of that, at least, before he told Mary. And then he became feverishly impatient. He must know at once, it seemed to him—he could not wait. He called his wife, and told her, with a manner which he tried hard to make calm, that he was going out of town the next morning on a little business. She wondered that he was so uncommunicative—it was not like him—but she would not trouble him with any questions. She should understand it all some time, she knew, still she thought there was something strange in his way of speaking.

The minister strove hard for the mastery of his own spirit, as the cars whirled him along the next morning toward the tribunal at which he was to receive his sentence. He tried to think of something else, but found the effort vain; so he said over and over, as simply as a child, one form of words:

"Father, whichever way it turns, oh, give me strength to bear it."

Holding fast to this prayer, as to an anchor, he got out of the cars and went into the streets. What a curious mist seemed to surround all things! The houses looked spectral through it; the very people he met seemed like ghosts. He had not realized his defective vision so much at home where it had come upon him gradually; and all objects were so familiar. Still, with an effort, he could see the signs on the street corners and find his way.

He reached at last the residence of the distinguished oculist for whose verdict he had come. He found the parlor half filled with people waiting like himself. He was asked for his name, and sent in a card on which was written:—"Rev. Wm. Spencer, Montclair." Then he waited his turn. He dared not think how long the time was, or what suspense he was in. He just kept his simple child's prayer in his heart, and steadied himself with it.

The time came for him at last, and he followed the boy who summoned him into a little room, shaded with green, with green furniture, and on a table a vase of flowers. The stillness and the cool scented air refreshed him. He saw dimly, as he saw everything that morning, a tall, slight man, with a kind face and quiet manners, who addressed him

by name, invited him to sit down, and then inquired into his symptoms with such tact and sympathy that he felt as if he were talking with a friend. At last the doctor asked him to take a seat by the window and have his eyes examined. His heart beat chokingly, and he whispered under his breath:

"Thy will, oh, God, be done; only give me strength."

Dr. Gordon was silent for a moment or two—it seemed ages to Mr. Spencer. Then he said, with the tenderest and saddest voice, as if he felt to the uttermost the pain he was inflicting:

"I cannot give you any hope. The malady is incurable. You will not lose your sight entirely, just yet; but it must come. The minister tried to ask how long it would be before he should be blind; but his tongue seemed to cleave to the roof of his mouth, and he could only gasp."

Dr. Gordon understood; and answered very kindly that it might be a month, possibly two.

He stood up, then, to go. He knew all hope was over. He paid his fee and went out of the room, and out of the house. It seemed to him things had grown darker since he went in. He hardly knew how he found his way to the cars. It was two hours past his dinner time, and he was faint for lack of food, but he did not know it. He got to the station somehow, and waited for the train to start for Montclair. All the way home he kept whispering to himself: "One month, possibly two"—as if it were a lesson on the getting by heart of which his life depended. He heard the conductor call out Montclair, at last, and got out of the cars mechanically. His wife stood there waiting for him. She had been anxious about him all day.

"Oh, William!" she cried, and then she saw his face and stopped. There was a look on it of one over whom some awful doom is pending; a white fixed look that chilled. She took his arm and they walked on silently, through the summer afternoon. When they reached home, and she had taken off her bonnet, he spoke at last:

"Mary, come here and let me look at you. I want to learn your face by heart."

She came and knelt by him, while he took her cheeks between his hands and studied every lineament.

"Are you going away?" she asked, after awhile, for his fixed, silent, mysterious gaze began to torture her.

"Yes, dear, I am going; going into the dark."

"To die?" she gasped.

"Yes, to die to everything that makes up a man's life in this world," he answered, bitterly.

"Mary, I am going blind. Think what that means. After a few more weeks I shall never see you again, or our children, or this dear beautiful world where we have lived and loved each other. The whole creation is only an empty sound forevermore! Oh, God! how can I bear it?"

"Is there no hope?" she asked, with a curious calmness, at which she herself was amazed.

"None. It was my errand to town to-day to find out. I have felt it coming on for months, but I hoped against hope, and now I know. Oh, Mary, to sit in the darkness until my death day, striving for a sight of your dear face. It is too bitter; and yet what am I saying? Shall my Father not choose His own way to bring me to the light of heaven? I must say, I will say, His will be done."

Just then the children came running in; boyish, romping Will; shy, yet merry little May.

"Hush, dears," the mother said, "papa's tired. You had better run out again."

"No, Mary, let them stay," interposed he; and then he said so low that his wife's ears just caught the whisper:

"I cannot see them too much in this little while."

Oh, how the days went on after that! Every day the world looked dimmer to the minister's darkened eyes. He spent almost all of his time trying to fix the things he so loved in his memory.

It was pitiful to see him going round over each well known, well loved scene, noting anxiously just how those trees looked stood out against the sky, or how that bill climbed toward the sunset. He studied every little flower, every fern the children gathered; for all creation seemed to take for him a new beauty and worth. Most of all he studied their dear home faces. His wife grew used to the dim, wistful eyes following her so constantly; but the children wondered why papa looked so well to keep them in sight; why he did not read or study any more.

There came a time at last, one Sunday morning, when the brilliant summer sunshine dawned for him in vain.

"Is it a bright day, dear?" he asked, hearing his wife moving about the room.

"Very bright, William."

"Open the blinds, please, and let the sunshine in at the east windows."

Mary Spencer's heart stood still with

in her; but she commanded her voice and answered steadily:

"They are open, William. The whole room is full of light."

"Mary, I cannot see; the time's come; I am alone in the darkness."

"Not alone, my love," she cried, in a passion of grief and pity and tenderness. Then she went and sat down beside him on the bed, and drew his head to her bosom, and comforted him just as she was wont to comfort her children. After a time her tender caresses, her soothing tones, seemed to have healed his bruised, tortured heart. He lifted up his head and kissed her, his first from out the darkness in which he must abide, and then sent her away. I think every soul standing face to face with an untold calamity longs to be a space alone with its God.

Three hours after that the church bells rung, and as usual, the minister and his wife walked out of their dwelling, save that now he leaned upon her arm. In that hour of seclusion he had made up his mind what to do. They walked up the familiar way; and she left him at the foot of the pulpit stairs and went back to her pew in front. He groped up the stairs; and then, rising in his place, he spoke to the wondering congregation:

"Brethren, I stand before you as one on whom the Father's hand has fallen heavily. I am blind. I shall never see you again in this world—you, my children—for whose souls I have striven so long. I have looked my last on your kind, familiar faces on this earth—see to it that I miss none of you when my eyes are unseen again in heaven. Grant, Father, that of those whom Thou hast given me, I may lose none."

There was not a tearful face among those which were lifted toward him; as he stood there with his sightless eyes raised to heaven, his hands outstretched, as if to bring down upon them the blessing for which he prayed. Some of the women sobbed audibly, but the minister was calm. After a moment he said:

"My brethren, as far as possible, the services will proceed as usual."

Then in a clear voice, in which there seemed to his listeners' ears some unearthly sweetness he recited the one hundred and thirtieth Psalm, commencing:

"Out of the deep I have called upon Thee, oh, Lord; Lord, hear my voice."

Afterward he gave out the first line of a hymn, which the congregation sang. Then he prayed, and some said, who heard him, the eyes closed on earth were surely beholding the beautiful vision, for he spoke as a soul beloved, whose very soul was full of the glory of the Father's presence.

The sermon which followed was such a one as they had never heard before from his lips. There was power in it, a fervor, a tenderness which no words of mine can describe. It was the testimony of a living witness who found the Lord a very present help in the time of trouble.

When all was over, and he came down the pulpit stairs, his wife stood again at the foot, and he took her arm and went out silently. He seemed to the waiting congregation as one set apart and consecrated by the anointing of a special sorrow, and they dared not break the holy silence around him with common speech.

The next afternoon a committee from the church went to the parsonage. Mrs. Spencer saw them coming, and told her husband.

"It must be," she said to her, "to ask my advice in the choice of my successor."

"I think they might have waited one day," she cried, with a woman's impatience of any seeming forgetfulness of the claims given him by his years of faithful service.

The delegation had reached the door by that time, and the minister did not answer her. She waited on the men into the study, and left them there, going about her usual task, with a heart full of bitterness. It was natural, perhaps, that they should not want a blind minister, but to tell him so now, to make the very first pang of his sorrow sharper by their unthankfulness, it was too much.

An hour passed before they went away, and then she heard her husband's voice calling her, and went into the study prepared to sympathize with his sorrow. She found him sitting where she had left him, with such a look of joy and peace and thankfulness upon his face as she had never expected to see it wear again.

"Mary," he said, "there are some kind hearts in this world. My parish wants me to stay with them, and insist on raising my salary a hundred dollars a year."

"Want you to stay with them?" she cried, hardly understanding his words.

"Yes, I told them that I could not do them justice, but they would not listen; they believe that my very affliction will give me new power over the hearts of men; that I can do as much as ever. They would not wait a day, you see, lest we should be anxious about our future."

And I thought they were coming in

indecent haste, to give you notice to go." Mrs. Spencer cried, penitently.

"How I misjudged them! Shall I never learn Christian charity?"

So it was settled that the minister of Montclair should abide with his people.

For three years more his persuasive voice called them to choose the better way; and then his own summons came to go up higher. In those three years he had sown more seed and reaped more harvests than some men in a long lifetime. He did his work faithfully, and was ready when the hour came for him to go home. Just at the last, when those who loved him best stood weeping round his bedside, they caught upon his face the radiance of a light not of this world. He put out his hands with a glad cry:

"I see, I see! Out of the dark, into light!"

And before they could look with awe and wonder into each other's eyes, the glory had begun to fade, the outstretched hands fell heavily, and they knew that the blind minister was gone. "Past night, past day," where for him there would be no more darkness.

### "GOD'S RAVEN."

A lady who lived on the north side of London, set out one day to see a poor sick friend living in Drury Lane, and took with her a basket provided with tea, butter, and food. The day was fine and clear when she started; but as she drew near Islington a thick fog came on, and somewhat frightened her, as she was deaf and feared it might be dangerous in the streets if she could not see. Thicker and darker the fog became; they lighted the lamps, and the omnibus went at a walking pace. She might have got into another omnibus and returned; but a strong feeling which she could not explain made her go on. When they reached the Strand they could see nothing. At last the omnibus stopped, and the conductor guided her to the footpath. As she was groping her way along the fog cleared up just at the entrance to Drury Lane, and even the blue sky was seen. She now easily found the narrow court, rang the number 5 bell, and climbed to the fifth story. She knocked at the door, and a little girl opened.

"How is grandmother?"

"Come in, Mrs. A—," answered the grandmother. "How did you get here? We have been in thick darkness all day."

The room was exceedingly neat, and the kettle stood boiling on a small clear fire. Everything was in perfect order on the table stood a little tea-tray ready for use. The sick woman was in bed, and her daughter sat working in a corner of the room.

"I see you are ready for tea," said the lady; "I have brought something more to place upon the table."

With clasped hands the woman breathed a few words of thanksgiving first, and then said, "O Mrs. A—, you are indeed God's raven, sent by him to bring us food to-day, for we have not tasted any yet. I felt sure he would care for us."

"But you have the kettle ready for tea?"

"Yes, ma'am," said the daughter; "mother would have me set it on the fire; and when I said, 'What is the use in doing so? you know we have nothing in the house,' she still would have it, and said, 'My child, God will provide. Thirty years he has already provided for me, through all my pain and helplessness, and he will not leave me to starve at last; he will send us help, though we do not see how.' In this expectation mother has been waiting all day, quite sure that some one would come and supply our need. But we did not think of the possibility of your coming from such a distance on such a day. Indeed, it must be God who sent you to us."

"The righteous cry, and the Lord heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles."

### KEEPING THE TONGUE.

Keep it from unkindness. Words are sometimes wounds. Not very deep wounds always, and yet they irritate. Speech is unkind sometimes when there is no unkindness in the heart. So much worse that needless wounds are inflicted; so much the worse that, unintentionally, pain is caused.

Keep it from falsehood. It is so easy to give a false coloring—to make a statement that may convey a meaning different from the truth, while yet there is appearance of truth—that we need to be on our guard. There are many who would shrink from telling a lie, yet who suffer themselves in such inaccurate or exaggerated or one-sided statements, that they really come under the condemnation of those whose "lying lips are an abomination to the Lord."

Keep it from slander. The good reputation of others should be dear to us. Sin should not be suffered to go unrebuked; but it should be in accordance with the Scripture method, "Go and tell him of his fault, 'twixt thee and him alone." And it should be borne in mind that what is too often considered as merely harmless gossip runs dangerously near, if it does not pass, the confines of slander. A reputation is too sacred to be made a plaything of, even if the intent be not malicious.

### FAITH AND HOPE.

BY LILLIAN BELL.

Is there a life so drear that not a star  
Casts its bright rays across the gloomy way?  
Is there a heart so death that not a flower,  
E'er burst its buds unto the smiling day?

Hath not the chords within the soul been swept,  
In youthful prime, by some hand untried?  
Did not fair fingers weave the golden bands,  
That snapped in time, and broken threads remained?

Perhaps 'twas friendship; still, the ties did break,  
And severed hearts 'til then no sorrow knew.

Each act did serve to make the dreary space  
More wide, nor less the yawning chasm grew.

Nay, it cannot be! For all a star doth shine,  
Casting a halo 'round each mortal's head,  
Within the heart doth bloom the flower of Hope,  
And Faith, is only sleeping—she is not dead.

### COUNTING THE ELECTORAL VOTE.

Unless some change, which there is now but little reason to expect, shall come upon the men who have the control of election affairs in Louisiana, Florida and South Carolina, the two Houses of Congress will have devolved upon them, at the session now so close at hand, the most serious and momentous duty that has been thrown upon the National Legislature since the foundation of the Government. The struggle in 1801 in the House of Representatives between the party which supported Jefferson and the party that advocated Aaron Burr was a severe strain upon the patriotism of the men of those days, and upon the powers of endurance of the young Republic. So was the Presidential election by the House of Representatives in 1825, when Jno. Quincy Adams was elected by the House, although General Jackson had a large majority of the popular vote and a large plurality of the Electoral vote. Both elections created intense excitement and anxiety. But neither one of them was beset by the embarrassing and serious circumstances that attach to the present situation. There was no dispute then about the vote of any State; there was no doubt about the fairness of the return of the popular vote; there was no question about the authority or the decisive power of the tribunal that was to decide either of those elections. They were both instances in which no candidate had received a majority of all the Electors appointed, and the language of the Constitution was clear in referring the election of the President in such cases to the House of Representatives voting by States. Excitement and anxiety were extreme, but the law was clear, and the tribunal undisputed.

It is not so in the present most unfortunate conjuncture. The nineteen Electoral votes of three States are in dispute, and the one decisive vote is involved in them; the fairness of the popular election and the integrity of the count in every one of them is challenged; lawful and orderly proceedings are substituted by trick and stratagem, and, in at least one instance, by indubitable fraud. The votes of all three will, in all present probability, go to Congress to be counted on the second Wednesday of February next, according to the Constitution, and that body has not one syllable of undisputed law to enable it to sit as an adjudicating body to adjudge these complicated disputes. This much was led up to by our article of yesterday, which presented the existing state of the law, and its contested and unsettled condition. It is with respect to these unfortunate surroundings that we say that the two Houses of Congress will probably have cast upon them the most trying and momentous duty which those bodies have ever yet encountered, and nothing but the most self-denying and lofty patriotism can carry them and the country safely through the crisis, if it shall come upon them in the form which now appears to be imminent.

If a certificate shall be presented to the President of the Senate, and by him to Congress, purporting to contain the Electoral vote of a State, but which vote may never have been cast at all, there is no settled law to prevent that vote from being taken into the account. If two, three or four certificates shall come from two, three or four, or even a dozen States purporting to contain each of them the legal Electoral vote of a State, there is no uncontested law to authorize the two Houses to inquire into the validity of any of them, or to decide in a binding and final manner which of them shall be counted and which of them shall be thrown out. If a certificate shall be presented void of all form of law, there is no undisputed rule or regulation under which any judicial action can be taken upon it by the two Houses. There is only the uniform custom of eighty years, and the Twenty-second Joint Rule of the two Houses—but both of these are now in dispute. There is in fact nothing to depend upon now to give effect to the will of the people, except the spirit of honor, equity and patriotism among the

leading members of the Senate and House of Representatives.

It is marvellous that it should be so, in a country where there is so much legislation, but so it is; and the very fact that such a condition exists shows the strength of the faith of our people in their own inherent justice and in the capability of their institutions and representatives to find the way out of every danger. It is even more wonderful that the law should have been permitted to remain in its present condition by Congress, considering the number of warnings of danger they have had from time to time in the last sixty years. As far back as 1817 an Electoral vote came from Indiana at a time when it was questioned whether Indiana was actually a State or only a Territory. There was talk about the matter, but as the vote could not affect the result, nothing came of it. Again, in 1821, when Missouri was passing through her transition from Territorial existence into Statehood, an Electoral vote came from her, which caused inquiry as to the right of Missouri to vote for President, but no action, as the vote made no difference one way or the other. Then in 1857, an Electoral certificate came from Wisconsin which turned out to have been cast on a day not authorized by law. It was clearly unlawful, but it was ruled by the then President of the Senate, that it was not in order for the two Houses to contend about its regularity, and it was counted. It had no influence on the result, but if that certificate had contained the decisive vote, there would have been a serious time, for that was in the Fremont and Buchanan contest. Again, although there was an angry wrangle in each House after the vote was declared, this warning also passed without bringing about the indispensable legislation to guard against the danger.

In 1865, however, came the Twenty-second Joint Rule. This was designed to guard against the counting of Electoral votes from the Southern States until after "reconstruction" and readmission into the Union. Under this Rule there was dispute about the vote of Georgia in 1869, and about the votes of Arkansas and Louisiana in 1873, all of them being ruled out. None of these, however, influenced the result in any way. But the ruling out of the vote of Arkansas, the Senate voting to exclude it, and the House voting to admit it, turned out eventually to have been based upon an inexcusable blunder—so admitted by every one. This set Congressmen to thinking of the dangerous condition of the law on the subject; and it is to the credit of Senator Morton that he went to work sedulously and persistently to furnish a remedy by statute law. He even anticipated the difficulty of 1873, for his first effort was in January of that year, before the Electoral vote of 1872 was counted. He introduced a bill upon the subject, the object of which was to regulate the counting of the vote under sanction of an act of Congress. That bill was subsequently passed by the Senate, but failed to pass the House. He introduced it again this very year, when, after being passed by the Senate, its further progress was checked by a motion to reconsider, which was never acted upon. But in advocating that bill, which was a fair one, but by no means perfect, he spoke with almost the prevision of a prophet of the necessity of guarding against precisely the dangers which are threatening the country to-day. It is a lamentable misfortune that his bill was not perfected and passed. There is time enough yet to correct this omission, for Congress meets on Monday next, and the Electoral votes are not to be counted by Congress until the second Wednesday in February. According to the rules, it takes its place as unfinished business on the seventh day after the opening of the session. There should be patriotism enough in Congress to perfect and pass it, with the least delay consistent with deliberate consideration.—Philadelphia Ledger, Nov. 29th.

**SOUTH CAROLINA JUDGES.**—Judge Wright, the colored judge of the Supreme Court of South Carolina, fills the seat occupied before the war by Hon. J. H. Inglis, now chief judge of the Orphans' Court of Baltimore. Judge Wright went to South Carolina from Pennsylvania at the close of the war, and soon became prominent as a lawyer having received a legal education at the North. Judge Willard, the other associate judge, is also from a Northern State, and is a lawyer of very respectable attainments. His father was a judge in one of the Northern States. Chief Justice Moses, the other judge of the court, is a native South Carolinian. He was at the bar a great many years and is a man of very fair legal requirements even for his high position, and having had long and varied experience at the bar he has absorbed a great deal of law. They have all three always been earnest republicans, though disenchanted latterly perhaps of Chamberlain's style of bayonet republicanism. A gentleman who knows the judges has no doubt that their action on



## The Middletown Transcript.

EDWARD REYNOLDS, Editor.

MIDDLETOWN, DEL.

SATURDAY MORNING, DEC. 9, 1876.

### THE SITUATION.

The long suspense and anxiety which has attended the Presidential election, though the action of the Returning Boards of Louisiana and Florida were waited for as an apparent settlement of the difficulty, is, in reality, no nearer a solution than it was on the 8th of November last—the day after the election. The action of those Southern Boards disappointed nobody. It had been anticipated by both the adherents of Gov. Tilden and Gov. Hayes. The democrats were well satisfied that, inasmuch as Mr. Tilden had already 184 electoral votes conceded to him, and that, therefore, it would be positively necessary to have all the remaining votes given to Mr. Hayes in order to give him a majority, that the republican manipulators of those boards, who had proved themselves in previous years to be adepts in rascality, would be equal to this occasion also, and would throw out, on frivolous charges of "intimidation" and "fraud," hatched up in the fertile brain of such conscientious (?) creatures as Kellogg, Wells, Packard, Chamberlain and Stearns, of whom their own partisans said two years ago that their only proper place for them was the penitentiary, enough vote to overcome the large democratic majorities and give the electoral vote of those States to Hayes. This was accordingly done, and certificates of election were given to the republican electors, in despite of the fact that the democratic electors had received a large majority of the votes of the people. This was done in all three of the disputed States of South Carolina, Louisiana and Florida. Of course it was not expected that the democrats would yield their rights without a struggle, and consequently their electors, who were the really legal ones, assembled on Wednesday, and cast their votes for Tilden and Hendricks at the same time that the bogus (republican) ones cast theirs for Hayes and Wheeler. Both results were sent to the President of the U. S. Senate who will, or ought to, keep them, (the Lord only knows what a republican office-holder will do), until the constitutional time for counting them, in February, when they will be opened and a contest made between the two parties.

While the republicans were fixing up the returns in the Southern States and "sounding in" their candidates there, their infamous schemes were somewhat checked by the action of Governor Grover, of Oregon. One of the electors chosen on the republican ticket was found to be ineligible to the position on account of holding an office under the U. S. Government, being thereby disqualified by the constitution. After hearing the arguments of both parties, the Governor decided that there was no vacancy in the electoral college of that State because of the ineligibility of Mr. Watts, but that the votes cast for him were merely thrown away and he therefore awarded the certificate of election to the candidate who received the next highest number of votes, who, of course, was a democrat. By this action, which, it is claimed, is in perfect accord with the laws of Oregon, Gov. Tilden has received 185 electoral votes and Gov. Hayes 184, electing the former by one vote. This action is, of course, bitterly denounced by the radicals, who think it no harm for a Returning Board to steal a State solely in the interest of their party, but while terribly at "fraud" when their evil deeds recoil upon their own heads. Of course this act of Gov. Grover will be contested, but according to the teachings and declarations of the radicals themselves, who, however, meant it all in reference to their own actions in the South, Congress has no right or power to go behind the certificate of the Governor of a State, and thus they are caught in their own trap.

"LET HIM WHO IS WITHOUT SIN AMONG YOU CAST THE FIRST STONE."

While we make no apology for his act, and offer no excuse for the execrable conduct of Gen. Woodall, we may say that there are circumstances attending the commission of the deed which should induce some men at least to be lenient in the judgment of him and, while they denounce the crime, be charitable in the condemnation of the man. When Daniel Woodall came to Middletown in the spring of 1874, he came with an untarnished reputation and, as far as anything to the contrary was known, an unblemished character. He began business as a manufacturer of drills and other farm machinery, and for a time maintained an excellent reputation for integrity and promptness in liquidating his business obligations and meeting his engagements. His capital, however, was limited and in a little while was entirely exhausted, and the financial problem of how to conduct business without money began to embarrass him. Bills, notes and other obligations due him for goods sold came due and were not paid and to meet his obligations he was obliged to borrow money on his own notes. These would come due and find him still unable to collect from his debtors, and being thus unable to meet his engagements, he could no longer procure the endorsement of his friends to aid him in borrowing funds and at last, in an evil hour, in a fit of desperation, he yielded to temptation and resorted to the easy but dangerous and criminal method of counterfeiting the signatures

of others in endorsement of his notes. The first step having been taken the progress was thenceforward easy and he went rapidly onward. He doubtless had no idea, at first, of continuing in such a course, but thought to gain a little more time, in which some at least of his debtors would pay their indebtedness and he could pay off his ill-gotten loans and his sin would not be known. But those debts were not paid, and the second wrong had to be committed to hide the first. Thus was he led from one wrong step to another because those whom he trusted neglected to keep their engagements. Men who thus incur debts when they have no reasonable grounds to believe that they will be able to meet their obligations when they mature, though they may intend to do no wrong, are frequently the cause of great financial embarrassment to others and often, unintentionally it may be, cause great injury and harm to their creditors. In this view we repeat that D. Woodall & Co's long-winded debtors should at least be lenient in their judgment of him.

### PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS.

Both houses of Congress assembled in their respective chambers on Monday and entered at once upon their duties. In the Senate resolutions were offered providing for the usual committee to notify the President of the assembling of Congress and of a committee to investigate the Southern elections. Mr. Tugall, of Kansas, also offered a resolution providing for calling a convention for revising the Constitution of the United States and for other purposes. The Senators elect from Colorado were admitted and sworn in.

The House was organized by the election of Hon. Samuel J. Randall, of Philadelphia, speaker. A resolution, by Mr. Hewitt, of N. Y., was adopted appointing committees to proceed at once to Louisiana, South Carolina and Florida, to investigate the action of the returning boards as to the recent elections in those States; to report all the facts essential to an honest report of the votes for President and Vice President, and whether the electoral votes of those States should be counted. Objection was made by the republicans to the appointment of these committees, and they voted solidly against it—that is, all but three independent republicans, who voted with the democrats. The swearing in of Mr. Belford, of Colorado, and Butts, of South Carolina, was also objected to.

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5TH.**  
**SENATE.**—Senator Morton submitted his constitutional amendment relating to the election of President and Vice-President, and it was laid on the table for future consideration. Mr. Edmunds' resolutions of inquiry into the elections of certain Southern States were taken up and adopted by a party vote, the democrats opposing them. The President's message was read and ordered to be printed. Mr. Merrimon, N. C., introduced a bill providing for holding the Presidential election in October and the meeting of the Electoral College in January.

**HOUSE.**—The time was spent in discussing and deciding the vote by which the Southern election investigating resolutions were adopted the day before. Certain members declaring that their votes had been incorrectly reported and recorded. Finally Speaker Randall cast his vote on the affirmative side and settled the matter.

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6TH.**  
**SENATE.**—The resolution of Mr. Withers calling upon the President for information relative to the stationing of troops at Petersburg, Va., was taken up, debated at length, and adopted. A message from the President transmitting and adopting by a party vote, the demands from Hon. John Sherman and others, who were requested by the President to visit Louisiana and witness the counting of the electoral vote, was laid before the Senate and ordered to be printed. Mr. Edmunds' joint resolution for counting the electoral vote for President and Vice-President was called up. During the debate the Vice-President pro tem decided that the joint resolutions were not in force, and an appeal was taken, but no decision was arrived at.

**HOUSE.**—The Speaker presented a letter from the President of the United States, accompanied by testimony, addressed to him by Senator Sherman and others in regard to the canvass of the vote for electors in Louisiana. The paper was read, after which Mr. Wood, of New York, severely criticized the President for sending into that State an unauthorized way, such an unauthorized and partisan document. Mr. Wood said he could conceive of but one object the President had in transmitting the paper, and that was the incidental one of suggesting that the House was clothed with authority to institute a careful inquiry into the election of President.

The letter and accompanying documents were laid on the table by a vote of 153 to 90, and the House adjourned.

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7TH.**  
**SENATE.**—Mr. Mitchell, of Oregon, submitted a resolution, which was ordered to be printed and lie on the table, directing the Committee on Privileges and Electors to inquire into the facts connected with the issuance of certificates to the Cronin Electoral College in that State. A bill was introduced by Mr. Howe, of Wisconsin, to restrain unauthorized persons from assuming to act as electors; and by Mr. Cameron, of Wisconsin, regulating the navigation of vessels.

**HOUSE.**—Mr. McCrary, of Iowa, offered a resolution for the appointment of a committee of five, to set with a similar committee of the Senate, in preparing a measure for the better regulation of the counting of the Electoral vote, the committee to have leave to report at any time. Mr. Wood asked leave to offer a resolution calling upon the President for copies of all executive orders regarding the services of the army in the South during the elections. Mr. Kasson, of Iowa, objected, and the House adjourned.

### The President's Message.

President Grant submitted his eighth and last annual message to Congress on Tuesday. It was a short but comprehensive document—of such things as it treated upon—well written and couched in good language, but it was a subject of surprise and disappointment to the people, who had anxiously awaited its coming to learn the status of the Chief Executive on the election complications, that the message makes no allusion whatever to the difficulties and embarrassments that now perplex the country. The main object of the message seems rather to be to show to the people what a wise and sagacious statesman and conscientious patriot they have had at the head of the nation for the past eight years but whom, by their own folly, they are about to lose forever: for he intimates that he will hereafter take no part in public matters but retire to private life—an act in which he would receive the hearty approval of the whole nation, and from which he has never emerged the country would not have lost anything.

The message opens with a statement which might have been left out, as the truth of it has been too long and plainly evident to make any allusion to it necessary, and that is that he came "to the office of Chief Executive without any previous political training;" a fact that his blundering administration has abundantly proved, and had he added that he had learned nothing about his duties as president under the tutelage of his blunders, he would still have been accepted, but no sane man, unbiased by partisan prejudice, will believe his declaration that "he acted in every instance from a conscientious desire to do what was right, constitutional, within the law and for the best interests of the people." In view of his ill-considered attempts to control the elections in the Southern States by the use of Federal soldiers, and his armed interference with State legislatures, his ideas of constitutional duty will be regarded as rather peculiar to say the least.

The next step is a rehearsal of the circumstances under which he came into office—the close of the war, the death of Lincoln, the radical quarrel with Andrew Johnson, the reconstruction forces, &c., and tells us how ably he carried the country through those stormy times. The finances next receive his attention, and he says there has been a reduction of four hundred and thirty-five millions of dollars of the principal of the debt, and through this and the funding plan, there has been a reduction of thirty millions of dollars in the annual expense for interest. Within the last seven years the taxes have been reduced \$300,000,000. "The balance of trade" which, in 1869, was \$130,000,000 against the United States, is estimated to be \$120,000,000 in favor of the country in 1876. The President believes this favorable result will continue, so that the pledge of Congress to resume specie payments by 1879 will be easily accomplished, "even in the absence of much desired legislation." The humane Indian policy adopted has substantially accomplished its design, except in the Black Hills country, among the wild Sioux, where mercenary white men, violating treaty obligations, have caused a late and now nearly ended. The foreign relations of the country continue on a footing not only friendly, but shown by the Centennial celebration to be "cordial." Reference is made to the reduced appropriations by Congress in support of diplomatic and consular intercourse, but the President thinks that withholding appropriations in some instances will prove to be "expensive economy." The Adams Express Company has nearly completed its business. The boundary lines between the United States and British North America are all adjusted, except that which adjoins Alaska. Observations concerning the Extradition Treaty with Great Britain are reserved for a special message on that subject. Some courts have been established in Egypt to the satisfaction of our Government; and the Hawaiian Treaty is in operation since August, 1876. Certain "commotions" in Mexico, which still continue, have caused injuries to American citizens by persons in authority there, and the Texas frontier has been troubled by acts of violence. Some of these grew out of the irregular habits of the Rio Grande river, which appears to pursue a bad custom in changing its course and leaving it in dispute whether some adjacent lands are in Mexico or in the United States. Colombia has paid up the steamer Montijo claim; the Joint Commission on Mexican and American claims has completed its business; Sir Edward Thornton has rendered valuable service in that behalf as "Arbiter," and is justly thanked, and Venezuela is paying up the monthly instalments, with reasonable promptness, on claims she agreed to pay.

The delicate and complicated questions growing out of the abuses of our naturalization laws—out of marriages contracted by Americans in foreign countries, out of the status of American women who marry foreigners, and of children of American parents born abroad—are again called to the attention of Congress with a view to remedial legislation. So, too, is the status in our courts of aliens who have claimed, against the United States. Colorado was proclaimed a State in the Union, by authority of an act of Congress, on August 1st 1876. Six millions of dollars of additional appropriations for the army are asked for by the War Department on account of the additional 2500 men to the cavalry for the Sioux war, under the act of August 15, 1876. The attention of Congress is invited to certain recommendations of the Secretary of War as to the administration of that Department. The "Eads jettes" for deepening the channels at the mouths of the Mississippi, are making favorable progress. The Navy report shows (the President says) "that the navy of the United States is in a condition as efficient as it is possible to keep it with the means and authority given to the Department." The Post-office Department income was short of its expenses last year, \$4,151,989; it will require \$36,645,000 of appropriations for the current year, which is an excess over estimated revenue of more than \$6,000,000. The Report of the Commissioner of Agriculture is commended as an unusually valuable document, among other reasons because it points out the article which the world produces in too great abundance, thereby leaving to no profit and which yield a profit because the

production is not greater than the demand.

The Centennial Exhibition receives warm praise because of its "great success," and of "the enduring advantage" which it is expected the country will reap from it. The Government's own share as an exhibitor is strongly lauded, and the management of the Government officers highly commended.

Santo Domingo is the last topic. The President expresses his conviction in strong terms to the effect that if Congress had concurred in his views on this subject "the country would be in a more prosperous condition to-day both politically and financially." If Santo Domingo had been annexed to the United States we could have produced to advantage from our own soil the sugar we now get at such disadvantage from Cuba, and also products imported from Brazil. These take a great deal of coin out of the country, and we have no corresponding benefits by return trade. American flour from the Mississippi Valley going to Cuba may be taken right past Havana harbor all the way to Spain and be there reshipped on Spanish vessels to go back to Havana, at less cost than by the near direct voyage. The possession of Santo Domingo would have corrected this, and, besides the transportation rate at the South would have found there a congenial home, where their civil rights would not be disputed, and where their labor would be so much sought after that the poorest among them could have found the means to go.

The following is the concluding passage of the message:

"With the present Congress my official life terminates. It is not probable that public affairs will ever again receive attention from me, further than as a citizen of the republic, always taking a deep interest in the honor, integrity and prosperity of the whole land."

### THE COLORED VOTE.

As if in anticipation of some movement in Congress, the New York Tribune has a long article on the colored vote. In which, among other things, it says that "increased power was given to the Southern States in consideration of the supposed freedom of colored voters." If the Tribune had said in consideration of the supposed enslavement of the colored vote to the radical party leaders it would have come a good deal nearer the mark. The trouble is that the very means adopted by the radical leaders to perpetuate their own political power has become the instrument of their overthrow. The engineer has been "hoisted by his own petard." Without the thirteen additional electoral votes which have been given through negro suffrage Mr. Tilden could not be elected. The Tribune quotes the old saw, "Curses come home to roost," and says, "So do the curses of the colored vote." In its penitence mood, engendered like the repentance of many other sinners, by the fear of punishment, it says if the republican party had dealt honestly or decently in the Southern States; if its leaders in some States had not been vile and its rule infamous; if its methods had not comprised the acts of the thimble-rigger and the bribe-giver, if it had not sacrificed public respect and confidence by being known in power and by defending infamous crimes—we use the Tribune's own language—it would not have found the intellect and conscience of those States failing it which put into power. Yet it is doing all these things to-day. The Tribune says:

"Restoring balance to the United States by the use of force, and by the use of force by soldiers are not agreeable to Northern ideas of self-government. But wherever colored suffrage has been completely failed, either for self-protection or for defense of national welfare."

If this is not an admission that there has not been under radical rule, any free suffrage for the negroes, and that we do not know what is. But supposing it has really been free, it has certainly been exercised in the past to its own detriment, like a child playing with fire. As the negro gained experience and became informed as to the use of the ballot its value in protecting himself and serving his own interests, he has begun to throw his ballot in the required direction for the benefit, instead of the destruction of the State and community in which he lives, and hence for his own benefit. He thus learns, though at his own previous cost, how to use the privilege of suffrage in a manner which will not make it an injury to himself instead of a benefit. Thus it happens that his suffrage can no longer be made available by radical leaders to the destruction of the State and communities in which his lot is cast. Therefore radicalism begins to think that the conferment of suffrage upon the negro was a mistake. The Tribune says that "the vital question is whether the share of power granted to the colored voters shall be seized and used by those formally in rebellion to overthrow those who preserved the Union? Parties and the sins of parties are no longer the issue. And yet there never has been a State in the South, from first to last, carried by radicalism, that it was not done by practical destruction of the freedom of the negro vote, federal officials and agents being always at hand to take possession of it and influence, direct, and, if necessary, command it. The very display of power over the whites by the exhibitors of the military and other active, self-seeking federal agencies, has over and over again effectually accomplished that end and left no opportunity for the white men, natives of the soil, whose destiny for weal or woe was united with that of the colored men, to give them counsel and warn them against the evil which they were unwittingly bringing upon themselves. But fortunately the day of relief is at hand, and the engine which has been worked for evil in the past may now be turned to good ends."

The New York Observer is out with its prospectus for the fifty-fifth year. It is a large paper of the first class, and should be in every family in the land. Those who do not take it should send for a specimen copy at once, or, better yet, should send the price for a year. Any person desiring a comprehensive weekly newspaper, filled with just the news that every family wants, and in the form of a paper that is not only a source of information, but a source of amusement, should send \$3.15 to S. I. Prime & Co., 87 Park Row, New York, and receive the Observer post-paid.

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**THE OLD RELIABLE.**  
The undersigned respectfully informs the citizens of Middletown and vicinity that he is prepared with excellent Horses, Wagons and Carriage, to do all kinds of HAULING at the lowest rates. Coal and Lumber hauled at short notice and on the most reasonable terms. Orders for baggage or other parcels left at the Post Office will receive prompt attention. Good Building Sand always on hand. J. W. WILSON. J. W. WILSON.

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## The Middletown Transcript

Published every Saturday by  
**Edward Reynolds.**

TERMS—\$2.00 a year, payable in advance.  
No paper discontinued until so ordered, except  
at the option of the publisher.

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Space.	1 wk.	1 mo.	3 mos.	6 mos.	1 year.
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4 "	2.25	4.50	8.00	12.00	20.00
5 "	2.75	5.50	10.00	15.00	25.00
6 "	3.25	6.50	12.00	18.00	30.00
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10 "	5.25	10.50	20.00	30.00	50.00

Business Locals and Special Notices to cents  
a line for each insertion. Obituaries charged  
at the rate of 5 cents per line of eight  
words. Marriages and deaths inserted free.  
Terms: Cash in advance, invariably.

SATURDAY MORNING, DEC. 9, 1876.

## LOCAL AND STATE AFFAIRS.

### Shooting Match Near Middletown.

A shooting match between R. T. Clayton  
and Edward Perry took place last Wednes-  
day near town. Fifteen pigeons a side were  
used, Clayton killing five and Perry seven of  
the number. What the purse was, we are  
unable to state.

### New Store in Townsend.

Geo. W. Ernest has commenced business as  
a dealer in general merchandise—dry goods,  
groceries, &c., in Townsend. Mr. Ernest is  
a good business man and very popular with  
his acquaintances, and will, we hope, succeed  
well in his new undertaking.

### Store Broken Into and Robbed.

The grocery store of A. T. Bradley in this  
town was broken into on Monday night and  
robbed of \$100 in money and some fruit. An  
entrance was effected by boring a hole in the  
shutters of a back window and removing the  
bolt. Suspicion rests upon some young men  
in this town as being concerned, but no ar-  
rests have been made.

### Burned to Death.

A sad burning accident occurred in White-  
hall Neck, near Smyrna, last Saturday. A  
little daughter of Milton Richards, aged four  
years, had her clothing taken fire from the  
fireplace, when she was near the fire. She  
ran out to meet her mother, who was some dis-  
tance from the house, but fell in the yard, and  
was dead when her mother reached her.

### Divine Service.

The services at Bethel M. E. Church (Pilot  
Bridge) will be varied on Sabbath morning  
next, the 10th inst. Prior to the delivery of  
the sermon, the pastor will read N. P. Willis'  
sacred poem, the "Healing of the Daughter of  
Jairus." Services at 10 o'clock, to which  
all are cordially invited.

Geo. R. Buxton, Pastor.

### Personal.

Mr. P. H. Boone, of this place, left here on  
Tuesday morning for California, where he has  
been offered a position as teacher in a high  
school at Oakland in that State. He will go  
by way of the Union and Central Pacific  
Railroads, and, if circumstances will per-  
mit, run down to Salt Lake and make a short  
visit to the Mormon City.

### Counting the Electoral Vote.

Messrs. John H. Wilsey, John W. Sharpe  
and George W. Roden, Delaware's Presiden-  
tial Electors, assembled at Dover on Wednes-  
day and cast their votes for Tilden and Hen-  
dricks. Mr. J. C. Goodwin was appointed mes-  
senger to carry the votes to Washington.—  
Governor Cochran and Secretary Grubb were  
both present and issued the proper certificates.

### Safe Burglars Get \$30,000 in Camden.

The store of Daniel Millin, at Camden, in this  
State, was entered by thieves on Tuesday  
night, and the safe blown open and robbed of its  
contents, consisting of from \$15,000 to  
\$20,000 in money, government bonds and  
bank certificates. A hardware store was en-  
tered the same night and robbed of a large  
amount. There is no clue as yet to the rob-  
bers, but they are thought to be Philadelphia  
cracksmen.

### Fire Near Odessa.

The dwelling house on the farm of Mr. Wm.  
S. Vandye, near Odessa, was accidentally  
destroyed by fire between 6 and 7 o'clock last  
Tuesday evening. It was occupied by Mr.  
Vandye's son, Frank Vandye, who, how-  
ever, was about leaving the farm with the in-  
tention of going to Philadelphia to engage in  
the commission business. He had just moved  
out most of his goods when the fire was dis-  
covered, and the remaining few articles were  
readily saved. It is said the property was  
fully insured.

### List of Letters.

Remaining in the Middletown Postoffice, for  
the month ending Nov. 30th, 1876: James  
Blackson, James Batson, Wm. P. Bibbs, Jack-  
son P. Cooper, Bliza Crisby, Charles Carda,  
Charles E. Cline, Frank Carle, William H.  
Dilworth, Vivian Farrell (2), John Frazier,  
Sam'l Grooms, F. H. Greenwood, Mrs. Han-  
dall, Minny Harard, Jack Harker, Judge  
Goldborough Jinks, Emma Jones, John  
Knickerbocker, John B. Lydell, Nathan  
Motheral, Edward Nels, Patrick O'Rielly,  
Wilson H. Parks, J. E. Pitt, Henry Seymore,  
Emma E. Trice, Joseph Vinson, Elizabeth  
Warren, Elizabeth Ward. Persons calling for  
the above will please say they are called for  
by the advertiser. D. L. DUNNING, P. M.

### Extensive Shoe Business.

R. M. & W. T. Johnson now have their  
machinery all in operation here, in their fac-  
tory, and are going to change the style of  
their firm, preparatory to extending their  
business. Hereafter the extensive concern is  
to be known as the Diamond State Shoe and  
Leather Company, and a store is to be opened  
in Dover next week, in addition to those here  
and at Middletown. Richard M. is to take  
charge of the factory here, and will move his  
family from Middletown in a few days; W. T.  
goes to Dover to run the store there, while  
one of our citizens (yet to be selected) is to  
run the store here. They have a capacity now  
for manufacturing about 400 pairs of shoes  
per day.—Smyrna Times.

### A Sewing Machine for a Dog.

Good and well-trained bird dogs are some-  
times regarded as pretty valuable property,  
and are occasionally sold at pretty high rates.  
A gentleman residing not a hundred miles  
from Middletown was the owner of an excel-  
lent dog of this kind, well broken and a good  
hunter, but he did not own him any longer.—  
One of those irrepressible nuisances, sewing  
machine agents, called at this gentleman's  
house, a short time since, during his absence  
and offered to sell his wife a sewing machine.  
The lady expressed her desire to have a ma-  
chine but declined to buy on the ground that  
she had not the money at hand to pay for it.  
The agent, applying the afore said dog, offered  
to swap a machine for the dog. To this the  
lady readily agreed and the machine was de-  
livered to her and the agent left taking with  
him Mr. ——— a bird dog. Now the gentle-  
man don't go gunning and refuses to be com-  
forted.

## How Easily Missed.

On Monday last William Tillison, colored,  
pointed a gun at Alex. Winchester, colored,  
and fired, but the shot passed harmlessly by.  
Winchester came to town on Tuesday morn-  
ing and had Tillison arrested and taken be-  
fore Esquire Walker, when the latter told how  
the former had entered his household, taken  
to himself the affection of his (Tillison's)  
wife, and finally formed a closer intimacy  
than was right. Tillison warned him against  
these informants, but still Winchester would  
not heed that warning, so the gun was  
brought into requisition "just to show him."  
The Squire said that \$500 bail for Tillison  
and \$100 for Winchester as witnesses would  
save them a trip to New Castle, failing to  
procure which, they were taken thither by  
Policeman Woodward in the afternoon train.

## Town Hall Improvements.

The improvements to the stage in the main  
auditorium of the Town Hall are about com-  
pleted and are, in truth, a vast addition to  
not only the appearance, but the usefulness  
and convenience of the room. They consist  
of the extension of the stage from side to side  
of the hall and the fitting it up with shifting  
scenery. Among these are a handsome land-  
scape or park scene; a street scene, a parlor  
scene and a kitchen scene. These are fur-  
nished with doors and windows that can be  
opened, so that actors can pass through them  
in the performance of dramas, comedies, &c.  
A very pretty landscape forms the back  
ground and pretty flies and other decorations  
adorn the ceiling. The drop curtain is very  
beautiful, being illustrated with a handsome  
painting of a view in Central Park, N. Y.—  
Foot lights have been furnished and the hall  
is now in complete repair for the use of theat-  
rical companies, operas, &c. The work was  
done by Messrs. Wise, Field and Rudy, who  
also fixed up the stage in Odessa Hall, and is  
very creditable to their taste and workman-  
ship.

## Robbery.

Last Thursday evening John Bartlett, of  
Cecilton, Md., came to Middletown and at-  
tempted to destroy certain amount of plain  
whisky, in doing which he became rather  
confused and was deced by a shed at-  
tached to the stables of Middletown Hotel,  
knocked down and robbed of \$25. On Fri-  
day morning Bartlett made complaint before  
Esquire Walker, and suspicion having rested  
upon Louis Boulton, John and Ebenezer  
Alfrey, warrants were issued for their arrest.  
Boulton got word of the affair and left town  
early on Friday for the purpose of gunning  
and failed to return. The Alfreys were ar-  
rested and given a hearing before the magis-  
trate, who testified that he was passing the parties who  
the assault was made and saw two men run  
away from the man, one of whom he recog-  
nized as Boulton. For the sake of decency  
it is hoped the last named will be kept out of  
the town's limits forever hereafter, as he has  
committed enough crimes to warrant his in-  
carceration in jail. Two years ago warrants  
were issued for his arrest for dangerously  
cutting two young men of this town, and he  
has been concerned in other dangerous fights,  
one of which occurred last Thursday evening  
just after the robbery of Bartlett. The Alfreys  
gave bail for their appearance at Court.

## Narrow Escape from Drowning.

During last summer, the dam of the Noxen-  
town mill pond, near Townsend, in this  
county, broke, and the water washed  
away the underpinning from one corner of a  
tenant house near the pond, owned by Mr.  
Nathaniel Williams. About a month ago,  
this break in the dam was repaired by the  
owner of the mill property, Jonathan Hand.  
Meanwhile the water in the dam had come to  
a full head.

Early last Thursday morning week, Henry  
Purse the tenant in the above mentioned  
house, on getting out of bed, discovered that  
the house was being washed away.  
The whole family then rushed out of doors, some  
of them not waiting to tend their clothes, and  
found that the recently mended place in the  
dam had broken again, and the water was  
washing against the house, the building was  
even then trembling and tilting, and in a few  
more moments it went over with a crash, and  
was instantly carried away by the strong  
current and dashed up against the new  
bridge. So great was the force of the water  
that the house was completely demolished,  
and broken into small pieces. All of Mr.  
Purse's household goods were carried away,  
and only the timely warning enabled the  
family to escape with their lives. Mr. Purse's  
family consisted of himself and wife, five  
children, his wife's mother, aged about 75  
years, and three men were spending the night  
at the house. Some of them lost most of their  
clothing, and the neighbors are now collect-  
ing money to put the family in a comfortable  
condition.—Correspondence of Gazette.

## Extensive Forgeries—A Lamentable Fall.

The publisher of a paper, in the accom-  
plishment of his duty to the public, as a  
chronicler of events, has often taken to per-  
form which are exceedingly unpropitious and  
distasteful, and from which he would gladly  
shrink if he consistently could. One of his  
dear devotes upon us none have been so dis-  
agreeable as that recording the delinquencies  
of Daniel Woodall. Of hitherto unassumed  
and, (apparently) unblemished character the  
sudden announcement of his fall from the  
position of an honored and respected citizen  
to that of a criminal and refugee from justice  
felt like a thunder-clap upon his friends and  
acquaintances and the community generally,  
and, at first, scarcely anybody could realize it,  
or was willing to believe it.

The facts of the case are, as far as we have  
been able to gather them, about as follows:  
Some two weeks or more ago the suspicions  
of the officers and some of the directors of the  
Citizens' National Bank of this place were  
aroused by some proceedings of Geo. Woodall  
in reference to certain notes which he had  
left at the bank for discount, and the ease  
and readiness with which he procured the  
endorsement of men who were known to be  
very careful and particular in such things—  
Suspicion being thus aroused, to find food  
for it, was an easy matter. Going quietly  
to work the cashier proceeded cautiously  
to push his investigations until he had  
obtained sufficient evidence to move to con-  
firm his worst suspicions. At the same time  
the officers of Odessa Bank, who had also  
been to conceive suspicions of wrong deal-  
ing, had commenced investigations which had  
the same result. In the meantime, and before  
publicity had been given to the affair, Woodall  
was covertly notified that his in-  
feanances had been discovered and he was  
warned to flee, which advice he took and  
made his escape for parts unknown. This  
warning was given to him at a very early  
hour on Thursday morning week and after  
telling his family of his troubles, which was  
a terrible shock to them, he hastily sought  
refuge in flight.

He had been guilty of the criminal act of  
counterfeiting the signatures and forging the  
names of sundry persons in endorsement of  
promissory notes whereby he was enabled to  
raise considerable sums of money.

As soon as the matter became known the  
holders of his notes, with and without en-  
dorsement, began to be apprehensive for the  
safety of their claims, and thus the evidences  
of his guilt became stronger and more abun-

ant. As far as is now known the persons  
whose names were forged are John Woodall  
and George V. Massey, (father and brother-  
in-law of D. Woodall), John C. Corbit and  
E. C. Fenimore, besides a small note of some  
\$70, to which was appended the name of W.  
Miffins. (It was this little note that first  
aroused the suspicions of the bank officers,  
though one of the directors had intimated  
fears of wrong some time before.) What the  
amount is that was obtained on these fraudu-  
lent notes, is not yet definitely known. It is  
estimated at various figures from \$5000 up-  
ward to a pretty high sum. Some of the  
principal victims were the Odessa (\$750) and  
Middletown (\$200) Banks, Charles Tatman,  
Esq., of Odessa (\$1,100), N. Williams (\$350),  
C. E. Hukill (\$450), Jacob Tome (\$1000),  
Charles Tatman, Jr., (\$250), besides some in  
Wilmington and other places. Some of these,  
we understand, have been settled through  
the agency of Messrs. John Woodall and  
G. V. Massey. The forging was all done  
with evidently a well practiced hand, for so  
well was the counterfeiting done that persons  
who were perfectly familiar with the signa-  
tures used did not recognize the fraud, and it  
was somewhat difficult to distinguish the gen-  
uine from the counterfeit when they were  
placed side by side.

What could ever have induced General  
Woodall to have adopted so criminal and  
dangerous a means of procuring funds for  
the prosecution of his business is an unfortu-  
nate mystery. Far better would it have been  
had he let his business fail and his effects be  
sold than to have taken such a method to  
continue it. He was generally liked and  
stood well in the opinions of the people and  
his fall was a shock to the whole community,  
and while all condemned his crime, the great-  
est regret is expressed for his unfortunate  
yielding to temptation.

## Proceedings of Court.

The Superior Court of this county began its  
fall term at New Castle on Monday, with  
Chief Justice Comegys and Judge Houston on  
the bench. The greater part of the morning  
session was occupied in calling over the Trial  
List and disposing of the various cases there-  
on. Of the whole 185 only 13 were set down  
for trial at this term. The rest were either  
continued, discontinued, settled, or in some  
other way disposed of. B. Neils, Esq.,  
wanted to remove the case of Charles Mege  
vs. George McCall to the U. S. Circuit Court  
but Chief Justice Comegys refused to allow  
him to do so. Edward Kennard, Clifford  
James and John H. Frazier were admitted to  
the bar, on examination, and James L. Val-  
landigham, of Ohio, on certificate. The newly  
elected sheriff, Isaac Grubb, Esq., bonded for  
\$16000 his securities being William Herbert,  
Benjamin C. Pearce, John Meally, Samuel G.  
Chandler and W. R. Lyman.

The first case called for trial was that of J.  
S. Rowbotham vs. C. Pearce. Patterson  
for plaintiff; Whiteley for defendant. The  
facts of the case are as follows: In 1873,  
March 25th, B. C. Pearce leased a house, No.  
9 East Third street, in Wilmington, to John  
S. Rowbotham for one year, reserving for his  
own use the front room, cellar room for stor-  
age in which said Pearce kept a saloon. June  
24th of the same year Rowbotham moved al-  
leging that the noise in defendant's saloon  
caused by gaming and profanity rendered it  
impossible for his family to remain. When  
Rowbotham moved, Pearce attached his goods  
and made him give security for the year's  
rent. When Rowbotham attempted to sublet,  
Pearce notified all comers that he would not  
permit them to occupy. When Rowbotham  
put up a notice "to let" Pearce supplemented  
it with a notice that "letting was not per-  
missible," and Rowbotham sued for dam-  
ages and Pearce confessed the facts and de-  
murred. The demurrer was ordered and now  
it is a mere question of damages. Quite a  
number of witnesses were examined and the  
case occupied a considerable time.  
Court adjourned at 6 p. m.

SECOND DAY, Dec. 5th.

Rowbotham vs. Pearce was resumed, and  
testimony was heard on both sides until 11  
o'clock. Counsel then argued the case, and  
at 12 o'clock it was given to the jury. Dur-  
ing the noon recess the jury came in with a  
verdict for plaintiff for \$286 53 and costs.

The case of James G. Knowles vs. Samuel  
C. Pearce, replevin, was then called. George  
Gray, Esq., for plaintiff, and Charles B. Lore,  
Esq., for defendant. The facts of this case  
are as follows:

In May, 1874, one Francis L. Urie, brother-  
in-law of plaintiff, rented the "Keg Mills" on  
the Brandywine, from E. I. Dupont & Co., and  
commenced work. After a time failing to  
pay, the goods in the mill were attached by  
his hands under a foreign attachment, and  
by Dupont under a landlord's warrant.—  
Knowles replevied the goods, claiming prop-  
erty, and the evidence showed that under a  
contract between Urie and Knowles, that  
Knowles furnished the material to be worked  
up by Urie at a charge of so much per yard.  
The defense alleged fraud.

During the argument of the case by coun-  
sel, Court adjourned until next morning at  
10 o'clock.

During the afternoon David C. Rose, the  
new coroner, bonded in the sum of \$3,000.

THIRD DAY, Dec. 6th.

The consideration of the case of Knowles  
vs. Pearce was resumed, Mr. Gray occupying  
an hour and twenty-five minutes in making  
the closing speech. The court charged the  
jury that if they found the property to be in  
Knowles' possession, then that part which was  
sent for the purpose of manufacture, was not  
liable either to attachment or distress, but  
that, at first, scarcely anybody could realize it,  
or was willing to believe it.

The facts of the case are, as far as we have  
been able to gather them, about as follows:  
Some two weeks or more ago the suspicions  
of the officers and some of the directors of the  
Citizens' National Bank of this place were  
aroused by some proceedings of Geo. Woodall  
in reference to certain notes which he had  
left at the bank for discount, and the ease  
and readiness with which he procured the  
endorsement of men who were known to be  
very careful and particular in such things—  
Suspicion being thus aroused, to find food  
for it, was an easy matter. Going quietly  
to work the cashier proceeded cautiously  
to push his investigations until he had  
obtained sufficient evidence to move to con-  
firm his worst suspicions. At the same time  
the officers of Odessa Bank, who had also  
been to conceive suspicions of wrong deal-  
ing, had commenced investigations which had  
the same result. In the meantime, and before  
publicity had been given to the affair, Woodall  
was covertly notified that his in-  
feanances had been discovered and he was  
warned to flee, which advice he took and  
made his escape for parts unknown. This  
warning was given to him at a very early  
hour on Thursday morning week and after  
telling his family of his troubles, which was  
a terrible shock to them, he hastily sought  
refuge in flight.

He had been guilty of the criminal act of  
counterfeiting the signatures and forging the  
names of sundry persons in endorsement of  
promissory notes whereby he was enabled to  
raise considerable sums of money.

As soon as the matter became known the  
holders of his notes, with and without en-  
dorsement, began to be apprehensive for the  
safety of their claims, and thus the evidences  
of his guilt became stronger and more abun-

## A TIME-HONORED SPECIFIC.

The long and successful career of Dr. Wistar's Pine  
Tree Tar Cordial as a remedy for the  
speedy collapse of nostrils during the  
briefest period of the twenty odd years  
that this celebrated medicine has been sold,  
affords a proof that the American public con-  
tinues to repose its confidence in deserving  
articles only. The Pine Tree Tar Cordial has  
long been recognized as the leading specific  
for Consumption, Brouchitis, Coughs, Colds,  
Asthma, Diphtheria and all other diseases of  
the breathing organs. It is, moreover, a cer-  
tain, speedy, and safe botanic remedy for  
Dyspepsia, Liver Disorders, Scrofulous Af-  
fections, Urinary Troubles, Gravel, Dropsy,  
Debility, Constipation, and Female Complaints.  
Consumers accumulating evidence of its im-  
peccable character establishes the fact that  
it is not only entirely eradicates the dis-  
ease so much feared, but also that its ac-  
tion is remarkably prompt and thorough.  
The crucial test of experience has demon-  
strated its reliability in every particular. Sold  
by all druggists. Principal depot, No. 916 Fil-  
bert Street, Philadelphia.

## READ AND LEARN FOR YOURSELF.

Many valuable discoveries and much useful  
knowledge is to be had from the "Pine Tree"  
of the immense expense in making them known to  
the people. This is not the case with Boccass's  
GEMMA SYRUP, although but a few years in-  
troduced into this country, its sale now  
reaches in every town and village in the U. S.  
Its wonderful success in curing Consumption,  
severe Coughs, Asthma, and all diseases of  
the throat and lungs, was first made known  
by distributing every year, for three years,  
over 400,000 bottles to the afflicted, free of  
charge, by Druggists. No such test of merit  
was ever before asked to any other prepara-  
tion. Could you ask more? Go to your  
druggist, H. Chamberlain, Middletown, or  
H. P. Baker, Odessa, and get a bottle for 75c  
and try it. Sample bottles 10 cents.

## No Failure Known.

There is no case on record where Dr. Mor-  
ris' Syrup of Tar, Wild Cherry and Hor-  
ebound has failed to give satisfaction. On the  
other hand, wherever it has been used by our  
people, in severe colds, coughs, asthma, bron-  
chitis, croup, whooping-cough and consump-  
tion, they are enthusiastic in its praise. Con-  
taining no opium or other deleterious ingredi-  
ents, it does not constipate, and is safe to administer  
in all conditions of health. This is an impor-  
tant announcement, and the suffering are ad-  
vised to heed it. Trial size, 10 cts. and 25 cts.,  
50 cts. and One Dollar. Sold by Ad-  
kisson & Co., Druggists, Middletown.

Also Agents for Parker's Pleasant  
Worm Syrup, which is sure death to worms,  
pleasant to take and requires no physic. Price  
25 cents. Try it.

## Business Locals.

A neat, comfortable HOUSE TO LET from  
the present until March 26th, 1877, with the  
privilege of next year. Is on Broad street ad-  
joining B. F. Lippincott's. Lowest rent in  
town. Apply at the Boot and Shoe Store, 25  
cents. Try it.

Ladies' 2-Button KID GLOVES, all colors,  
warranted. Every pair that rips or burns, ex-  
changed for new ones. \$1 per pair. S. M. REYNOLDS.

Lone Jack and other good brands of Smok-  
ing Tobacco at H. R. Wilson's.

For every day wear for women's, misses'  
and children's button and lace shoes, we offer  
our Old Grain and Patria stock, which will  
wear equal to call and Morocco dressing, they  
are cheap and gave entire satisfaction in our  
trade last winter. We can give testimonials  
from our best customers.

R. M. & W. T. JOHNSON.

The best Violin Strings at H. R. Wilson's.

Boys' and Youths' Congress Gaiters, Bala-  
n and Long Boots to all the little folks, at  
\$1.25, 1.50 & 1.75, at S. M. REYNOLDS.

Go to H. R. Wilson's and get the best To-  
bacco in town.

If you want Gros-Grain Ribbons cheap, go  
to W. H. MOORE & CO'S.

Vanity Fair Smoking Tobacco at H. R.  
Wilson's.

Kid Gloves—every pair warranted—at W.  
H. Moore & Co's for \$1.

One bale of heavy twilled Gray Flannels at  
25 cents, same goods sold last season at 27 1/2  
cents.

Vanity Fair Cigarettes at H. R. Wilson's.

Go to W. H. Moore & Co's for Zephyr.

The largest stock of Hamburg Edgings in  
Middletown can be found at W. H. MOORE  
& CO'S.

Good Yarn Segars at H. R. Wilson's.

Buffalo Robes at W. H. Moore & Co's.

Good, heavy long leg Boots for men's wear  
\$2.25, 2.50, 2.75 and 3.00, for sale by  
S. M. REYNOLDS.

Orders taken for Sheet Music, at H. R.  
Wilson's.

Extra long leg, whole leather, double sole  
Men's Boots—warranted not to leak, rip or  
break until worn out with old age. Price,  
only \$4 each, at S. M. REYNOLDS.

Good Accordions, cheap, at H. R. Wilson's.

Home made shirts, made of the Best Wam-  
pam Muslin and No. 2100 Linen and perfect  
fit, for \$1.00. For sale by S. M. REYNOLDS.

An excellent Segar for 10c at H. R. Wilson's.

Opened this day, a new case of CALICOES,  
warranted fast colors, at 6 cts. per yard, at  
S. M. REYNOLDS.

If you want a good 5 cent Segar, go to H.  
R. Wilson's.

Ladies call at S. M. REYNOLDS' and look  
at the new assortment of Hamburg Edgings  
and Insertings, in all widths and prices from  
10 cents and upwards.

New Orleans and Porto Rico Molasses  
Choice Sugar Loaf Drops and Sugar House  
Syrups, at S. M. REYNOLDS.

Fine Tobaccoes at H. R. Wilson's.

Rumford's Yeast Powder the best in the  
market, for sale by S. M. REYNOLDS.

An elegant 2-Button Kid Glove for 75  
cents each, at S. M. REYNOLDS.

Star Skirt Braids 7 cents Cash, at S. M. REYNOLDS.

Hams, Shoulders, Sides, Beef (smoked), at  
S. M. REYNOLDS.

Clark's best Spool Cotton, 6 cents per Spool  
or 70 cents per dozen Cash, at S. M. REYNOLDS.

ENVELOPES of all sizes, and letter heads with  
business cards, furnished, very cheap at the  
TRANSBROS OFFICE.

New No. 1, 2, & 3 Mackerel in barrels, half  
barrels, quarters and kits; New Split Labra-  
dor Herring in barrels and half barrels, just  
received and for sale by S. M. REYNOLDS.

A choice Rio Coffee, green, 25 cents, roast-  
ed 20 cents, cash, at S. M. REYNOLDS.

Ladies in need of a nice Silk Dress, call at  
S. M. REYNOLDS' and look at those Guiseit  
Black Silks at \$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.50 and \$1.75  
per yard, just received direct from the im-  
porters.

Men's fine calf Dress Boots, double and sin-  
gle sole, at \$4.00, 4.50 and 5.00. Also, calf  
Congress Gaiters at \$1.25, 1.50, 1.75, 2.50  
and 3.00 and 4.00, at S. M. REYNOLDS.

## JOE PRINTING

Or Every Description  
NEATLY EXECUTED AT THIS OFFICE.

## Dry Goods and Groceries.

## FALL AND WINTER GOODS.

W. H. Moore & Co.,  
MIDDLETOWN, DEL.

OUR STOCK of Fall and Winter Goods is  
now complete. Anticip



## Humorous.

**HIS FEET WERE TOO NATURAL.**—On Saturday night a number of the guests of a small Centennial hotel, situated near the grounds, determined to have some amusement at the expense of old Dick, the colored night porter and watchman. It was late before they returned from the theatre, and before retiring to their rooms, they spent an hour around the office stove relating, within Dick's hearing, some of the most blood-curdling ghost stories ever heard by mortal ear.

"Dick, did you ever see a ghost?" inquired one of the number.

"Don't know, couldn't swear to it, but I guess I has," answered Dick.

"What would you do, Dick, if you should happen to see a ghost this very night?"

"Why I just go right up to dat ghost take him by de arm, and say, 'Look yere, what does yer want running around here dis hour de night? Why does yer go back to yer grave?'"

"Then you are not afraid of ghosts, Dick?"

"Afraid," scornfully repeated Dick. "Does I look like a nigger dat would be skeered at a ghost? No, indeedy." And then, with a contemptuous toss of his woolly head, he picked up the coal scuttle and started towards the cellar. By the time he returned the party had all vanished, but a plot had been formed by which it was determined to put Dick's vaunted courage to a test before many minutes.

Now it happened to be among Dick's duties to extinguish the lights in all the halls after 12 o'clock, and usually, in making his rounds, he completed that job in the long hall, where all the conspirators slept. This hall, which was very long and narrow, was lighted during the day by two small windows, one at each end. The plan of the conspirators was to wait until Dick extinguished the last light and was returning towards the office, then one of their number was to step from a room, enveloped in a sheet, and suddenly confront him. Should he shrink and turn to flee, another at the other extreme end was to confront him in a similar manner.

Presently the conspirators heard Dick's well-known steps pass along the hall, and the gloom that followed informed them that all the lights had been extinguished. Then unsteady footsteps were heard as if a man was groping his way back. Noislessly a door at one end swung open and a frightful figure in white stepped out and stood clearly and distinctly defined in the moonlight.

"Oh! de good Lord. Oh! de good debbil! Dis wery, gone away now, please good mister debbil I done told yer dis chile nebber done nuffin to yer," gasped Dick, suddenly pausing, his shining eyes bulging out, and his whole frame quivering like an aspen leaf.

Still the figure moved not.

"Look yere," sobbed poor Dick, falling on his knees. "Dis chile nebber called yer bad names. Oh! good debbil, gone away now."

The apparition slowly drew towards him. Seeing it was advancing, Dick sprang to his feet with a terrible shriek, and turned to flee, only to find himself confronted by another horrible specter at the other end of the hall.

"Oh, good mister second debbil," moaned Dick, falling prone upon the floor and clasping the supposed ghost around the legs. "Indeed I didn't do nuffin to yer. Indeed I didn't," he continued, bobbing his head against the ghost's feet.

Finding the figure did not stir or speak, Dick slowly raised his head, gazed shyly and curiously down upon the booted feet, revealed to view by the moonlight, glanced upward at the form above, felt of the limbs his arms encircled, and then as a sudden light appeared to dawn upon his intellect, he rose to his feet and exclaimed:

"He, he, now I yer thought you had dis old nigger skeered, didn't yer? Look at dem feet of yours. Look at dem now. See dem number lebben boots, and just s'pose any fool wouldn't know dat a ghost didn't have feet like dem. Gone away now! Yer feet too natural to play ghost wid," and amid roars of laughter from the entire party Dick walked away as pompous and consequential as if he had achieved a wonderful victory.

**UTILIZING A HUSBAND.**—"Your husband is sick a good night of late, ben he?" remarked a Southern Illinois woman to another, one day last week.

"Yes," answered the wife, "he's got took down mighty hard with them 'ere ager shakins agin."

"I shed think it 'ud be sorter distressin' like to have him around de house," remarked the other, sympathizingly, "spec'y when yer at home clean."

"Wal, so it wud," replied the wife, in self-consoling tones, "but when he's got inter one of his chills, and I want de rag carpet shuk, yer see he's a powerful smart hand ter hitch onto it."

Then the woman wended her way home envying her neighbor the knack she had of utilizing her husband—*Chicago Journal.*

## AN EPISODE IN COURT.

A TOUCHING AND SUCCESSFUL PLAY.

The routine procedure of the Criminal Court of Baltimore was varied yesterday afternoon by a very interesting episode. A man giving the name of Geo. Barton was brought from jail and placed in the prisoner's dock on trial for the theft of a pair of pants, valued at \$3.50, from John Brenner, Pratt and Frederick streets. He had been arrested by the police while intoxicated, and the pants, with Brenner's card on them, being found in his possession, Brenner was sent for. He had not sold them to Barton, whom he had never seen before and Barton being unable to account for them properly was presented for the larceny. He had no counsel, and said on the court's inquiry he did not want any. He asked no questions of the witnesses. On being asked by Judge Brown if he had anything to say he replied he had. Advancing to a position in front of the clerk's desk he rejected the offer to swear him, saying he had no evidence to give. He was dressed meanly, was nearly six feet tall, with a slight stoop of the shoulders, features strong, hair and beard dark. He said:

"This is a most painful position for me, your honor, to stand before a court of justice charged with an act so degrading as theft. As little as any one did I once think ever to be so ashamed. For only four years ago I was an honored member of a bar not undistinguished for ability in another State. How I have fallen, this degradation (indicating by a gesture his position) and these rage and the effects of intemperance. I well know intoxication is no excuse for crime. But the essence of criminality is the intent. I am totally oblivious in regard to this act. I know not when, nor where, nor by whom I was arrested. Could I have intended, then, to do the act? If courts are instituted not alone to find out the truth and to punish the guilty, but to amend and restrain, they must leave narrow rules and advance to broader principles; the spirit of the law rather than its letter must be their animating principle. If this court is administered in that spirit I may again be permitted to enter those fields of exertion and enterprise where I may recloth myself with the honor and respect of my fellow men, for whatever may be the end of this matter, I have resolved never again to degrade my manhood by intoxication. In this presence I repeat and renew the pledge of reform I had made to myself; I will devote my manhood and my old age to winning again the honor, respect, love, friends and position I once held. I will pursue again the paths and the steps that lead to good repute and happiness."

"But conviction means something very different from these hopes. Conviction means not imprisonment only. It means shame and ruin of a life. Every hope of rehabilitating a life will be in vain. The brand will be on me. Every avenue of honest industry will be closed to me. Nowhere can I escape the stigma. If I take the wings of the morning and fly to the uttermost parts of the earth, it will follow me. If for a brief space secure in obscurity it will still ever hang like the sword of Damocles over my head. Ah! how hungry the world is to catch up the evil reports that blacken men's names. I ask not for pity, but only that a way may again be opened for a man's restoration to self-respect, friends and a home once more."

The man's tones were touching and his manner eloquent. While he spoke the auditory was spell-bound. Judge Brown was so much affected that for some moments he could not articulate. He called the prosecuting witness and State's attorney, and after a few words with them told Barton a story would be entered by consent of all parties and he could go. The clerks, bailiffs and others who listened to the man's appeal were also some of them affected to tears. They made up a purse for Barton, to take him home. He had been in jail fifty-six days. It is not probable that he gave his right name, but no one knew what his name was, and all wished him every success in his new formed resolution—*Baltimore Sun, Nov. 25th.*

**JAMES BEARD,** the artist, once spent a summer at a country inn, and paid his board in portraits at five dollars apiece. A year or two afterward the landlord found the rising artist in the city painting portraits on a rising market. "James," said the old man, "what do you get for pictures now?" "Thirty dollars," was the reply. "Ah! and how many can you paint in a week?" "Two," said truthful James. The old man, after a slight mental wrestle, exclaimed: "Sixty dollars a week—\$240 a month. Now, James, if you can be very careful and save up your money, you'll soon be able to leave painting and go into some respectable business."

Beard says that, in a business point of view, he has often been sorry he didn't take the advice.

**HAPPINESS.**—True happiness is of a retired nature, and an enemy to pomp and noise; it arises, in the first place, from the enjoyment of one's self, and in the next, from the friendship and conversation of a few select companions. False happiness loves to be in a crowd, and to draw the eyes of the world upon her. She does not receive any satisfaction from the applauses which she gives herself, but from the admiration she raises in others.

A vain man can never be altogether rude. Desirous as he is of pleasing, he fashions his manners after those of others.—*Goethe.*

Out-door relief—A breath of fresh air.

## Middletown Directory.

CORPORATION OFFICERS.

Town Commissioners—T. E. Hurn, President; Thomas Massey, Jr., Secretary; Jas. H. Scowdick, C. W. Wilson, Wm. W. Wilson, Assessors; C. R. Anderson, Treasurer.

Justices of the Peace—DeW. C. Walker, Police Magistrate—L. B. Woodwell, Lamplighter—F. Schreitz.

**NOTARY PUBLIC.**  
John A. Reynolds.

**TRUSTEES OF THE ACADEMY.**  
Hon John P. Cochran, Pres.; Henry Davis, Trust.; Samuel Penington, Secretary; James Kately, B. Gibbs, R. T. Cochran, N. Williams, Principals of Academy—T. S. Stevens.

**OFFICERS OF CITIZENS' NAT'L BANK.**  
Directors—Henry Clayton, B. Gibbs, B. T. Biggs, John A. Reynolds, James Culbertson, E. C. Fenimore, M. E. Walker, J. B. Carter, Joseph Biggs.

**DIRECTORS OF TOWN HALL CO.**  
J. M. Cox, Pres.; Samuel Penington, Sec.; J. R. Hall, Treas.; R. A. Cochran, Jas. Culbertson, Jas. H. Scowdick, Wm. H. Barr.

**CHURCHES.**  
First Presbyterian—Rev. John Patton, D. D., Pastor. District service every Sunday at 10:30 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Sunday School at 9 a. m. Lecture on Wednesday at 7:30 p. m. Sunday School in the Chapel at Armstrong's every Sunday at 2:30 p. m.

**MASONIC.**  
ADONIRAM CHAPTER NO. 5, R. A. M. Meets in Masonic Hall on the second and fourth Fridays of every month at 8 o'clock, p. m. Union Lodge No. 5, A. F. & A. M. Meets on the first and third Tuesdays of every month at 8 o'clock, p. m. Masonic Hall.

**KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS.**  
DANIEL LODGE NO. 12 Meets every Friday evening at 8 o'clock. Lodge room in the Town Hall.

**GOOD SAMARITAN LODGE NO. 9.** Meets every Thursday evening at 7:45 o'clock. Lodge Room in Cochran Hall, No. 2, Cochran Square.

**BUILDING AND LOAN.**  
MIDDLETOWN B. & L. ASSOCIATION—Samuel Penington, Pres.; A. G. Cox, Secretary. Meets on the first Thursday of every month at 8 o'clock, p. m.

**MUTUAL LOAN ASSOCIATION OF MIDDLETOWN.**—Jas. H. Scowdick, Pres.; A. G. Cox, Sec. Meets on the third Tuesday of every month at 8 o'clock, p. m.

**AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.**  
PENINSULA AGRICULTURAL AND POMOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION—Wm. R. Cochran, President and Chairman of Board of Managers; J. E. Naudin, Secretary. Annual Meeting fourth Saturday in January. Next annual fair will be held on October 4th, 5th and 6th, 1876.

**DIAMOND STATE BRASS BAND.**  
Meets for practice every Monday evening at 8 o'clock.

**DELAWARE RAILROAD.**  
Passenger trains going North leave at 7:07 a. m. and 3:59 p. m.; going South at 10:42 a. m. and 7:34 p. m. Freight trains with passenger car attached, going North, leave at 8:05 p. m.; going South, at 2:40 a. m.

**POST OFFICE.**  
Office Hours—Opens at 6:30 a. m. and closes at 3 p. m. every day except Sunday. Mails for the North close at 8:15 a. m. and 3:40 p. m. Mails for the South close at 10:15 a. m. and 8:30 p. m. Mails for Odessa close at 10:23 a. m. and 8:30 p. m. Mails for Warwick, Sasparas and Cecilton close at 10:23 a. m.

**STAGE LINES.**  
Stage for Odessa, with U. S. Mail, leaves shortly after arrival of the 10:43 a. m. and 8:52 p. m. mail trains. Stages for Warwick, Sasparas and Cecilton leave shortly after arrival of the 10:43 a. m. train.

**INDEPENDENT IN EVERYTHING! Neutral in Nothing!**  
OPPOSED TO ALL CORRUPT RINGS IN MUNICIPAL, STATE AND NATIONAL AFFAIRS!

**The Times.**  
A FIRST-CLASS MORNING NEWSPAPER. Published every morning, Sundays excepted, and delivered in the City of Philadelphia and surrounding Cities, Villages and Towns for TWENTY CENTS PER WEEK, payable to the carriers. It contains all the News of the Day, including the Associated Press Telegrams, Special Telegrams and Correspondence from all points of interest, full and accurate Local Reports, and Fearless Editorial Discussions of all current topics. It is a first-class newspaper in every respect.

**ADVERTISEMENTS**  
Are tastefully and attractively displayed. The circulation of "THE TIMES" is much larger than that of any other daily paper in this City or State, with the single exception of the Ledger, and is constantly increasing.

**WEED & CO.,**  
Agents for the  
**OLD BANK.**  
**Oysters! Oysters!**  
Have taken the place of Ice Cream at this popular establishment. We are now ready to accommodate both.

**LADIES and GENTLEMEN**  
WITH THE  
**FINEST OYSTERS**  
That can be obtained. We have made arrangements with E. Conger & Co. of Franklin, Pa., to have our Oysters taken from Chincoteague Bay, which are acknowledged to be the best in the market. We are ready to supply families or parties on short notice.

## Dry Goods and Groceries.

1876. 1876.

**Cheap, Cheaper, Cheapest.**  
**FALL AND WINTER GOODS**  
Just Received.

AND TO BE SOLD AT VERY REDUCED PRICES FOR CASH.

**DRESS GOODS**—of nearly all kinds, very cheap.

**NOTIONS**—Neck Ties, Gloves, Hosiery, Jewelry, and all Fancy Goods, very low.

**CLOTHING**—Men's and Boys' Ready-Made Clothing, fine Dress Suits and common Suits, from \$5 to \$20.

**CARPETS**—30 pieces of Carpeting, consisting of Cottage, Hemp, Rag, Ingrain, Stair, Venetian and Brussels, at the following prices: 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 cts. to \$1.50. Also, White and Plaid Matting.

**BOOTS & SHOES**—Men's fine Boots from \$2.50 to \$5; Men's Gaiters from \$1.75 to \$4; Men's Centennial Buckle low cut Shoes from \$2.50 to \$4; Ladies' Slippers, Bala, and Gaiters from 75 cts. to \$2.50. All sizes of Children's Shoes from 25 cts. to \$1.50.

**SEWING MACHINE NEEDLES.**  
**GUNS & PISTOLS**—Double and Single-barreled Guns; Single, Double and 7-shot Cartridge Pistols from \$1 to \$5. Cartridges, &c.

All persons wishing to get the worth of their money will not give us a call.

**M. L. HARDCASTLE, with**  
**S. R. STEPHENS & CO.**  
**IMMENSE STOCK**

**Dry Goods,**  
**NOTIONS,**  
**GROCERIES.**

**PROVISIONS, &c.,**  
**FOR THE**  
**FALL AND WINTER TRADE.**

**COME LOOK AT IT,**  
**THEN BUY CHEAP**  
**For the Ready Cash.**

**ELIASON BROS.**  
Middletown, Del.

Having concluded that large sales and quick returns will not only pay better than having the goods lay on the shelves, but enable us to constantly show a greater variety, we have marked all our

**GOODS DOWN,**  
**TO A VERY LOW FIGURE.**

We have recently added to our Stock and are prepared to exhibit to the inhabitants of this town and vicinity a magnificent line of

**DRY GOODS,**  
**FANCY GOODS,**  
**READY-MADE CLOTHING,**  
**BOOTS, SHOES,**  
**HATS, CAPS,**  
**NOTIONS,**

Etc., etc. We adhere strictly to "Popular Prices," and the popular verdict on our prices is that no goods of the same style and workmanship can be bought anywhere else for the same money.

We have with us W. GEO. MABREY, November 18th, 1876.

**TO THE PUBLIC.**  
The subscriber would call the attention of the public to the large and well-selected

**Stock of Goods,**  
CONSISTING IN PART OF  
**Dry Goods, Notions,**  
**GROCERIES,**  
**BOOTS AND SHOES,**  
**HATS, HARDWARE,**  
Queensware, Wood and Willow Ware, Earthen and Stone Ware,  
**FISH, MEATS, &c.**  
AND EVERYTHING USUALLY KEPT IN A  
**First Class Country Store.**  
All of which have been selected with care, and will be sold  
**At Prices in accordance with the times.**  
GIVE US A CALL BEFORE PURCHASING ELSEWHERE  
**NO CHARGE FOR SHOWING GOODS.**  
**CHAS. TATMAN, Jr.,**  
MIDDLETOWN, DEL.  
Jan 1, 1876—4f

## Time Tables.

PHILADELPHIA, WILMINGTON AND BALTIMORE RAILROAD.

**Del. Division.—Time Table.**  
**WINTER ARRANGEMENT.**  
On and after Monday, NOV. 27th, 1876, (Sundays excepted), trains will leave as follows:

SOUTHWARD.						NORTHWARD.					
Passenger Mixed.						Passenger Mixed.					
A. M. P. M. A. M. P. M.						A. M. P. M. A. M. P. M.					
7:00	8:00			Baltimore	10 35	7:50					
7:15	8:15			Washington	11 10	8:05					
7:30	8:30	5:00		Wilmington	8:40	8:20	4:30	8:35			
7:45	8:45			Philadelphia	9:10	8:35					
8:00	8:55			New Castle	8:22	8:41					
8:15	9:05			State Road	8:24	8:43					
8:30	9:15			Delmar	8:26	8:45					
8:45	9:25	5:54		Rodney	8:13	8:39					
9:00	9:35			Georgetown	8:15	8:41					
9:15	9:40			Mt Pleasant	8:02	8:36	4:37				
9:30	9:55			Seaford	8:04	8:38					
9:45	10:05			Townsend	7:37	8:20	4:50				
10:00	10:20			Green Bank	7:40	8:23	4:53				
10:15	10:35	6:00		Green Spring	7:24	8:24	4:42				
10:30	10:50			Seaside	7:26	8:26	4:44				
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9:00	9:20			Georgetown	1:03	8:1					